such village has been set up at East Lalabaria in the State of Tripura. Based on the experience gained from this, ONGC plan to undertake similar projects in other States.

Commercial use of LPG

†1695. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the annual percentage of LPG used for commercial purpose;

(b) whether LPG is being sold from retail outlet for commercial use; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) LPG sales of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) for commercial purpose (Non-domestic packed) was about 1.45% of their total sales of LPG, during the year 2004-05.

(b) and (c) OMCs are selling auto LPG through Auto LPG Dispensing Stations (ALDS) in various cities. The total sale of auto LPG during the year 2004-05 was 31138 Metric Tonne (MT).

Allocation of kerosene to Orissa

†1696. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the allocation of kerosene oil to Orissa has been decreasing continuously since 2001-02 and despite request being made by State Government, Kerosence oil is not being allocated as per data of census 2001;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has requested to allocate kerosene oil to Orissa on the pattern being followed in the case of Punjab and Haryana; and

(c) if so, the reasons for delay in following the aforesaid pattern?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) As per the policy adopted by the Government of India, the Kerosene (SKO) allocation for distribution under the Public

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Distribution System (PDS) to various States/Union Territories, including Orissa, was reduced every year beginning 2001-02 and 2004-05, taking into account the number of LPG connections released in each of the States/Union Territories. The State Government of Orissa has made a request for the allocation of PDS SKO on the basis of uniform per capita availability in all States.

In view of the requests received from various State Governments for increasing the allocation, the Government of India have commissioned the first-ever detailed study of Kerosene demand in the country, through the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in December 2004. The final report of NCAER is expected by September 2005.

Pending the report of NCAER, and taking a view thereupon, allocations have been maintained for the year 2005-06, at the level of 2004-05, including additional allocations made during that year to meet emergency/urgent demands for PDS Kerosene in States/Union Territories. The decision about rationalizing the allocation of PDS kerosene among States/Union Territories would be taken after examining the NCAER report.

Sub-wholesalers for kerosene in Karnataka

1697. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has requested the Central Government to drop the proposed introduction on sub-wholesalers for kerosene;

(b) if so, what are the reasons given by the State Government to drop the above move; and

(c) the action, if any, taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The Government have approved an innovative pilot project of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for radically revamping the PDS kerosene distribution network with the primary objective of ensuring that this heavily subsidized product is actually made available in the required quantities at subsidized prices to the intended beneficiaries;